

MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING AND ADVISORY COUNCIL  
March 16, 2016 10:00 am to 3:30 pm  
Polk County River Place, Room 1  
2309 Euclid Ave, Des Moines, IA 50310  
MEETING MINUTES

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MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING AND ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Teresa Bomhoff	Todd Lange (phone)
Kenneth Briggs Jr.	Amber Lewis (phone)
Jim Chesnik (phone)	Craig Matzke
Jim Cornick	LeAnn Moskowitz
Jim Donoghue	Tammy Nyden
Kathleen Goines	Brad Richardson
Julie Hartman	Jim Rixner
Julie Kalambokidis (phone)	Lee Ann Russo
Michael Kaufmann	Christina Schark (phone)
Gary Keller	Dennis Sharp
Anna Killpack	Jennifer Vitko
Sharon Lambert	Kimberly Wilson

MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING AND ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

Kris Graves	Rhonda Shouse
Lori Reynolds	DJ Swope
Donna Richard-Langer	

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Theresa Armstrong	Bureau Chief, Community Services and Planning, DHS
Karen Hyatt	DHS, MHDS, Community Services & Planning
Deb Johnson	Bureau Chief, Long Term Care, IME
Brenda Lechner	United Health Care
Peter Schumacher	DHS, MHDS, Community Services & Planning
Kathy Stone	Iowa Department of Public Health
Tracy White	Hope Center

Vice Chair Ken Briggs called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. and led introductions. Quorum was established with seventeen members present and four participating by phone.

**Approval of Minutes**

Craig Matzke made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 20, 2016 meeting as presented. Anna Killpack seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Nominations Committee – by Ken Briggs**

Ken Briggs said that the Planning Council has two vacancies for parents of children with a serious emotional disturbance (SED), and has an application from Tracy White. Ken recommended the nomination of Tracy White to the Planning Council to represent parents of children with an SED. Brad Richardson made a motion to approve the nomination of Tracy White. Dennis Sharp seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Nominations committee also accepted the appointments of Jerome Greenfield from the Department of Corrections, Michele Tilotta from the Department of Public Health, and Michael Kaufmann from the Department of Human Services.

### **Public Safety Workgroup Report – by Brad Richardson**

Brad Richardson reported that the Public Safety Workgroup had developed a survey and will be taking it to the Marshalltown Sheriff's Office. The survey is relatively simple and is designed to be filled out at the time of booking by the police officer. The survey consists of basic information about the person being charged, the charges, and asked if there were an alternative to filing charges in this case, would the officer have preferred to utilize that alternative.

### **Children's Workgroup – Tammy Nyden**

Tammy spoke about SF 2161, which is a bill acting upon the recommendations made by the Children's Mental Health and Well-Being Workgroup. The bill makes an appropriation of \$300,000 for planning grants to develop children's mental health crisis services in two locations in Iowa. The bill also directs the department to partner with a foundation specializing in child welfare to conduct studies, or "Learning Labs" to evaluate collaborative efforts to ensure child well-being in children with complex needs. Tammy added that SF 2258 also contained some language from the Children's Mental Health and Well-Being Workgroup's report.

Anna Killpack said there is a bill that would ask the Department to consult with the Department of Public Health and the Planning Council, and write a report on children's mental health services in December, 2016.

### **Vocational Rehabilitation – Lee Ann Russo**

Lee Ann said there The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act that was passed in 2014 will become effective on July 1, 2016. There are several provisions of the law that are meant to help transition-aged youth find meaningful employment in the community rather than in workshop settings.

### **Corrections – Gary Keller**

Gary said that Dr. Jerome Greenfield, the new Mental Health Director for the Department of Corrections will be taking over on the Planning Council as of May. He expressed an interest in the group after meeting with Theresa Armstrong. Gary said he has enjoyed his four years on the Planning Council, and will stay on the email list to

keep up to date with the Planning Council and to act as a back-up when needed. Gary spoke about the efforts the Department of Corrections are making in order to reduce isolation and treat and recognize the mental health needs of offenders in correctional facilities.

Jim Cornick expressed concern with Dr. Greenfield joining the Planning Council due to his experience with Dr. Greenfield and his son's care. Jim spoke about HR 2646, which is a bill in Congress that would allow family-members to access health information from medical professionals. Jim asked Gary's opinion on sharing information with family members. Gary said that this is a difficult question. Often there is a case where they need to balance the rights of the patient with their care needs.

Sharon Lambert asked what steps the Department of Corrections are taking to reduce isolation. Gary answered that they are trying to reduce the amount of time individuals spend in isolation, and evaluating on a case-by-case basis whether visits would be helpful or detrimental to the individual's therapeutic needs. Treatment options available to the Department of Corrections are not available to county jails.

Craig Matzke spoke to draw a distinction between county jails and the Department of Corrections. County jails are short term settings to resolve short term issues of public safety, and the Department of Corrections is concerned with long-term rehabilitation of the individuals in the corrections system.

Jim Rixner spoke about how Community Mental Health Centers handle involvement from family members in individuals' care. Jim said he cannot share information with family members, but he can listen to them provide information about the individual.

Todd Lange shared concerns he had with HR 2646 and patients' privacy rights. Todd said there were controversial elements in that bill that had not been resolved.

### **Iowa Medicaid Enterprise – LeAnn Moskowitz**

LeAnn said that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has approved Iowa's waiver to move forward with IA Health Link beginning April 1. Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME) is working to ensure a seamless transition for Medicaid members. IME is still working with providers to resolve issues in billing as there were some billing codes that Magellan was reimbursing for, but IME did not, so they are loading them into the system.

LeAnn said that on January 1, the Department implemented child care medical services for children with advanced medical needs during daycare hours. IME also implemented community-based neuro-rehabilitation services for individuals with a brain injury diagnosis as a diversion from more costly options. IME had been providing this service through exceptions to policy in the past.

Jim Rixner asked how someone would become eligible for community-based neuro-rehabilitation services. LeAnn said an individual would need to have a brain injury and mental health diagnosis, display symptoms at a level and frequency to make an intervention necessary, have a neuro-behavioral assessment completed by a qualified healthcare professional, and be at risk in the community due to issues such as aggressive, self-harm, or unwanted sexual behaviors. Jim asked if this is for children and adults. LeAnn answered that the program is for individuals age eighteen and up. Jim asked if this program would allow people to get services without being on the brain injury waiver waiting list. LeAnn answered that CMS has granted fifteen reserve capacity slots so people can transition from this program to the brain injury waiver. Some individuals may be on the waiver and still receive this service.

Sharon Lambert asked how many outstanding claims are still awaiting reimbursement from IME. LeAnn Moskowitz answered that the claim denial issues vary, and IME is working to resolve them. LeAnn said that when they see outstanding claims, they contact the provider to resolve the issue with that as soon as possible. The average claim to payment or denial is seven days, and if it goes longer than that, then LeAnn encouraged the provider to contact IME.

#### **Legislative Workgroup – Teresa Bomhoff**

Teresa Bomhoff presented a handout with a list of bills that had cleared the second legislative funnel. Some bills that did not clear the funnel will have their language put into the standings bill or an appropriations bill.

Teresa spoke about Polk County's funding needs. Teresa said the county is asking for \$7 million to cover services for the next year, and if they do not have the funds to support their services, they would be forced to cut services. Ken Briggs expressed concern with cutting taxes and cutting services to balance the budget.

Teresa spoke about AMOS (A Mid-Iowa Organizing Strategy), which is an organization of churches. Teresa said AMOS had been spending time discussing challenges with Iowa's mental health system. The group decided to replicate a study that measured the accuracy of mental health care providers' listed information such as their physical address, the insurance they accept, and whether they are accepting new patients. AMOS looked at mental health prescribers who accepted insurance through Iowa's Health Insurance Exchange. Teresa said there were several discrepancies between what was listed, and the providers they were able to contact.

Tammy Nyden asked if the study was public. Teresa said she had a meeting with Tony Lehs, a journalist, later that day, and that she has spoken with several legislators about it.

Teresa spoke about the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) and their funding. Teresa said that IDPH is sending unused funds back, and that she would like to see that funding go to pay for a loan forgiveness program for mental health professionals.

### **Monitoring and Oversight Committee – Anna Killpack**

Anna said the committee had a phone meeting earlier that month with staff from the Department. Anna said the committee has looked closely at the University of Iowa contract on Peer Support and Family Peer Support training. Craig Matzke said he asked for specific information on the contracts. He said that last year, the Planning Council had made recommendations to the Department concerning their priorities, but did not see any new contracts that reflected those priorities when they received the list of contracts and their purposes. Craig spoke about other information he requested from the Department on the Peer Support and Family Peer Support training program including curricula, the number of support specialists trained, and the number of supervisors trained. Craig also said the committee asked to be kept up to date on deliverables.

Jim Rixner said he did not remember the Department having a conversation with the Planning Council about using Mental Health Block Grant dollars to pay for the inpatient bed-tracking system. Craig Matzke expressed frustration with the level of involvement the Planning Council has in the procurement process for Mental Health Block Grant contracts.

There was discussion on the Planning Council's role in the contracting process for the Mental Health Block Grant.

There was a break taken for lunch at 12:45 pm.

The meeting resumed at 1:30 pm.

### **Department of Human Services, MHDS –Theresa Armstrong**

Theresa spoke about bills that concern mental health and disability services.

SF 2236: is a bill on the MHDS levy. This bill would give the authority to raise their property tax levy for MHDS services up to \$47.28 per capita. Counties would not have to do anything, but there are forty-five counties that are currently under that level that would be allowed to raise their levy.

SF 2101: Provides for a 20% increase in Medicaid supported employment rates retroactively to June 30, 2015. This bill is designed to incentivize community-based employment settings for people with disabilities. The bill is in the Appropriations Committee so it is immune to the funnel.

SF 2161/SF 2297: Is a bill concerning the recommendations from the Children's Mental Health and Well-Being Workgroup. This bill was also referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee so it is immune to funnels. The bill contains a \$300,000 appropriation for planning grants to develop children's mental health crisis services. Theresa said the bill also directs the Department to collaborate with a child welfare

foundation to establish “Learning Labs” to study and encourage a more collaborative culture in the child welfare system.

SF 2259: is a bill related to individuals with serious mental illness (SMI) and are on civil commitment orders. Under this bill, if such an individual was not complying with outpatient treatment under their commitment order, the judge could order the individual into protective custody and taken to the outpatient setting where they will have the ability to choose to comply with treatment, or be taken to inpatient care.

Jim Cornick asked if a mental health professional would have to make the determination on whether or not the individual was out of compliance. Theresa said that is correct. Gary Keller asked if the individual would be taken for an evaluation. Theresa said that was not clear in the legislation.

There was a discussion about finding appropriate treatment for individuals under civil commitment orders.

SF 2144: is a bill related to the disclosure of mental health information for the purposes of care coordination. The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) would still apply. This bill has passed the House and the Senate. This bill has passed the House and the Senate, but not yet signed by the Governor.

HF 2366 would give mental health advocates exclusive control over the performance of their advocate duties. There was an amendment to clarify that this would mean MHDS Regions would not be able to retaliate against advocates for decisions they make. There was concern over the MHDS Regions having a conflict of interest if they were supervising the mental health advocates and also paying for the services for the people the advocates serve.

SF 2188: was a bill that would allow psychologists to prescribe medication if they completed additional training.

Jim Cornick asked about HF 510, which is a bill that would allow counties to contract with private entities to transport individuals under an involuntary commitment order. Theresa answered that HF 510 was from last year, and not active in this current legislative session.

Sharon Lambert asked about the plan for Medicaid Oversight. Theresa answered that there were bills that did not make it through the funnel, but that did not mean that there would not be oversight of IA Health Link. The Department of Human Services is responsible for providing oversight over IA Health Link, the Medical Assistance Advisory Council (MAAC) would have some oversight responsibilities, and the long term care ombudsmen have a role as well.

There was discussion about the MAAC and how to find application information. Peter Schumacher said he would send out the link to the application for the MAAC.

### **Planning for May Meeting**

The Planning Council planned to discuss media outreach, a committee that would write an annual report, and the Planning Council expressed an interest in hearing from Gretchen Kraemer from the Attorney General's office.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:00 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Peter Schumacher